

Message Text

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TAGS: OVIP, BE, FR, PL (PRESIDENT CARTER)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S TRIP

1. THE WHITE HOUSE THIS MORNING ANNOUNCED THE ITINERARY
OF THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP AS FOLLOWS:

NOVEMBER 22 - CARACAS
23 - BRASILIA
25 - LAGOS
27-28 - NEW DELHI
29 - TEHRAN
30 - PARIS
DECEMBER 1 - WARSAW
2 - BRUSSELS

2. EXCERPTS FROM A BRIEFING BY DR. BRZEZINSKI ON THE
TRIP FOLLOW:

MR. BRZEZINSKI: I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP
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SCHEDULED FOR LATE NOVEMBER, EARLY DECEMBER. THIS TRIP
HAS BEEN IN PREPARATION FOR ABOUT A MONTH. IT IS NOW
READY TO BE ANNOUNCED.

IT HAS, ESSENTIALLY, FOUR OBJECTIVES. FIRST OF ALL, IT
IS TO CONDUCT IMPORTANT BILATERAL BUSINESS WITH COUNTRIES
WITH WHICH WE HAVE SIGNIFICANT RELATIONS. SECONDLY, IT

IS TO UNDERLINE TRADITIONAL TIES OF ALLIANCE, OF BELIEFS,
OF VALUES.

THIRDLY, IT IS DESIGNED TO WIDEN THE SCOPE OF INTER-
NATIONAL COOPERATION BY ENHANCING U.S. RELATIONS WITH
COUNTRIES THAT ARE PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE
IN WORLD AFFAIRS. AND FOURTHLY, IT IS TO SYMBOLIZE OUR
WILLINGNESS TO COOPERATE WITH SYSTEMS THAT ARE DIFFERENT
THAN OUR SOCIALLY, POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

IN EFFECT, THE TRIP IS AN EXPRESSION OF THE PRESIDENT'S
STATED COMMITMENT TO THE PROMOTION OF CONSTRUCTIVE
CHANGE, WORLDWIDE, AND OF AMERICA'S ENGAGEMENT IN THAT
EFFORT...

...HE WILL ARRIVE ON THE EVENING OF NOVEMBER 29 IN PARIS,
WHERE HE WILL STAY THROUGH THAT NIGHT, THROUGH WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 30TH, UNTIL THE MORNING OF THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1.
FRANCE IS OUR PRINCIPAL ALLY, ONE OF OUR OLDEST ALLIES,
ONE OF THE KEY COUNTRIES IN EUROPE, A COUNTRY TO WHICH
WE ARE TIED BY MANIFOLD RELATIONSHIPS OF FRIENDSHIP,
CULTURE, HISTORY AND POLITICAL INTEREST.

FROM FRANCE HE WILL PROCEED ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER
1ST TO WARSAW, POLAND, AND HE WILL SPEND THE REST OF THE
DAY IN WARSAW, INCLUDING OVERNIGHT. THERE ARE MANY TIES
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BINDING POLAND AND THE UNITED STATES, SOME OF THEM
ETHNIC. WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THE FACT THAT POLAND PLAYS
AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE EUROPEAN SECURITY SYSTEM,
THAT OUR RELATIONS WITH POLAND ARE AN IMPORTANT EXPRESSION
OF OUR EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACEFUL ACCOMMODATION AND
CONSTRUCTIVE DETENTE.

HE WILL LEAVE WARSAW ON THE MORNING OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2,
AND PROCEED TO BRUSSELS. THERE HE WILL CALL ON THE KING
OF THE BELGIANS AND MEET, OF COURSE, ALSO WITH THE
BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS CURRENTLY PRESIDING IN
THE COMMON MARKET. HE WILL HAVE MEETINGS WITH THE COMMON
MARKET, EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, AN ENTERPRISE DEDICATED TO
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY, WHICH WE FAVOR AND WELCOME. AND
HE WILL ALSO HAVE A VISIT WITH NATO, A PRINCIPAL ALLIANCE
AND RELATIONSHIP, THEREBY UNDERLINING OUR COMMITMENT TO
THESE TWO CRITICALLY IMPORTANT MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS.

ON THE VERY SAME DAY, LATER IN THE AFTERNOON, HE WILL
PROCEED BACK TO THE UNITED STATES.

WELL, THIS ESSENTIALLY IS THE TRIP. AS I HAVE SAID

EARLIER, IT HAS BEEN WEEKS IN PLANNING. IT IS BEING ANNOUNCED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED. THE PRESIDENT WAS VERY PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE INVITATIONS THAT HE HAS HAD FROM THESE GOVERNMENTS. HE CLEARLY REGRETS THERE ARE OTHER COUNTRIES HE CANNOT VISIT AT THIS TIME, BUT WE BELIEVE THIS TRIP IS AN IMPORTANT EXPRESSION OF THE KIND OF PRIORITIES THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS BEEN TRYING TO EXPRESS IN HIS MANY STATEMENTS, NOTABLY IN HIS NOTRE DAME SPEECH.

QUESTION: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OFTEN-STATED POSITION BY THE PRESIDENT THAT HE WOULD REMAIN HOME THROUGH THE FIRST YEAR OF HIS ADMINISTRATION? WERE YOU ABLE TO CHANGE HIS MIND, OR WHAT?
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MR. BRZEZINSKI: OF COURSE, YOU KNOW, HIS PREFERENCE IS TO BE AT HOME AND HE HAS STAYED AT HOME. THIS IS REALLY THE SECOND TRIP THAT HE HAS TAKEN. HE HAS BEEN AT HOME OTHERWISE ALL THIS TIME. THIS TRIP, HOWEVER, DOES SEEM TO US TO BE AN IMPORTANT NEED. IT REFLECTS OUR CONTINUED EFFORTS TO PROMOTE THE KIND OF WORLD WE ALL WANT TO LIVE IN, AND WE THINK IT IS USEFUL...

QUESTION: DR. BRZEZINSKI, IS THERE ROOM ON THIS TRIP FOR AN EXTENSION, SUCH AS TO THE SOVIET UNION TO VISIT PRESIDENT BREZHNEV?

MR. BRZEZINSKI: NO, THE TRIP IS A SELF-CONTAINED SCHEDULE AND NO SUCH PROVISION IS INCLUDED IN THIS TRIP. THIS IS NOT TO BE INTERPRETED AS EITHER EXCLUDING OR INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF SEPARATE MEETINGS, BUT I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY ON THAT. AND NOTHING ALONG THESE LINES, I HASTEN TO ADD, HAS BEEN PLANNED.

QUESTION: ARE YOU LEAVING OPEN THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT WILL MEET WITH MR. BREZHNEV SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE, SUCH AS WARSAW?

MR. BRZEZINSKI: AS FAR AS THIS TRIP IS CONCERNED, NO SUCH PROVISION IS INCLUDED IN THE PLANNING OF THE TRIP. I AM NOT TRYING TO BE MYSTERIOUS. I AM NOT HINTING THAT IT MIGHT BE NOR THAT IT IS ABSOLUTELY EXCLUDED. ALL I AM SAYING IS THAT WE HAVE NOT CONSIDERED THAT IN THE PLANNING OF THIS TRIP.....

QUESTION: THE VISIT TO FRANCE, IS THAT PURPOSE TO ENFORCE THE GOVERNMENT OF GISCARD?
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MR. BRZEZINSKI: NO, THE VISIT TO FRANCE HAS AS ITS PURPOSE TO UNDERLINE THE KIND OF TRADITIONAL RELATIONSHIPS WE HAVE HAD WITH FRANCE AND ALSO TO ENABLE THE PRESIDENT TO HAVE EXCHANGES WITH GISCARD ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES OF INTEREST TO BOTH COUNTRIES.

FRANCE PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN EAST-WEST RELATIONS; FRANCE PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT. WE HAVE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO DISCUSS WITH FRANCE ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE. SO THESE ARE VERY SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL MATTERS.

QUESTION: WILL HE MEET THE OPPOSITION LEADERS IN FRANCE?

MR. BRZEZINSKI: THE SPECIFIC ITINERARY WITHIN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND THE SPECIFIC SCHEDULES WITHIN INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES HAVE NOT BEEN FINALIZED. IT IS, HOWEVER, CUSTOMARY FOR THE PRESIDENT, WHEN HE IS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, TO SEE, IF IT IS DESIRABLE AND OPPORTUNE, SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL PERSONALITIES IF THEY WISH TO SEE HIM. AND HE MAY FIND IT OPPORTUNE TO SEE THEM IN THE AMERICAN EMBASSY....

QUESTION: WILL SECRETARY VANCE AND/OR AMBASSADOR YOUNG BE ACCOMPANYING THE PRESIDENT?

MR. BRZEZINSKI: I COULDN'T SAY WHAT THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WOULD BE AT THIS STAGE. I WOULD ASSUME THE SECRETARY OF STATE WOULD GO WITH HIM FOR ALL OR PART OF THE TRIP, BUT WE REALLY DON'T YET KNOW WHAT THE SECRETARY'S OWN SCHEDULE WILL BE. BUT CERTAINLY THE TRIP HAS BEEN WORKED OUT IN CLOSEST COOPERATION WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE....

QUESTION: DR. BRZEZINSKI, PRESENT COMPANY EXCEPTED, WHY IS HE GOING TO WARSAW? AND WILL HE MEET THE
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OPPOSITION PARTY LEADERS THERE?

MR. BRZEZINSKI: WHEN HE VISITS WARSAW, HE WILL BE UNDERLINING, AS I SAID EARLIER, THE FACT THAT WE THINK IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THE EAST AND THE WEST. WE KNOW, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT PRESIDENT BREZHNEV HAS VISITED FRANCE RECENTLY. HE WILL BE VISITING

WEST GERMANY SOON. AND WE FEEL THESE KINDS OF RELATION-
SHIPS ARE IMPORTANT TO DEVELOP.

WHAT KIND OF SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR HIM OR
FOR ANY MEMBER OF HIS PARTY WITHIN INDIVIDUAL CAPITALS,
IT IS REALLY PREMATURE, HIGHLY PREMATURE, TO TALK ABOUT...
END TEXT. VANCE

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